Application Serial No. 09/869,082 Reply to final Office action of October 19, 2005

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

1 through 45. (Cancelled)

- 46. (New) A multichamber coverslip comprising a group of connected coverslips which are spaced such that a single coverslip lines up with one or more slides in a slide holder of a system for processing biological samples.
- 47. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 46, wherein an individual coverslip comprises a concave well.
- 48. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 46, further comprising glass.
- 49. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 46, further comprising plastic.
- 50. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 47, wherein an individual coverslip with a concave well is an incubation chamber.
- 51. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 47, wherein the concave well comprises a soft and pliable top.
- 52. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 51, wherein the soft, pliable top allows expansion and contraction.
- 53. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 50 wherein the incubation chamber

Application Serial No. 09/869,082 Reply to final Office action of October 19, 2005

comprises a volume between 10 and 20µl.

- 54. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 46, wherein an individual coverslip is prescored.
- 55. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 52, wherein the prescored coverslip can be snapped off the holder.
- 56. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 46, further comprising reagents dried thereupon.
- 57. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 46, wherein each individual coverslip is labeled.
- 58. (New) The multichamber coverslip of claim 57, wherein the label is a barcode.
- 59. (New) A method of performing an assay on a biological sample comprising, placing a microscope slide having a biological sample into a slide holder of an integrated system for processing the biological samples, wherein the system further comprises a multichamber coverslip comprising a group of individual coverslips which are connected and spaced such that a single coverslip is lined up over the sample on a slide.
- 60. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein a solution for an assay is applied to the system.
- 61. (New) The method of claim 60, wherein solution is water and each coverslip further comprises a reagent predried onto the coverslip.

Application Serial No. 09/869,082 Reply to final Office action of October 19, 2005

- 62. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the assay is an immunocytochemical assay.
- 63. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the assay is an in situ hybridization assay.
- 64. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the assay is a polymerase chain reaction in situ hybridization assay.
- 65. (New) The method of claim 59 wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of a tissue section, a biopsy tissue, a cell smear, a nucleic acid, a protein or peptide, a chromosome, and a bodily fluid.
- 66. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the biological sample to be assayed further comprises a control sample.